

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 10, at indicated line 33 – page 11, at indicated line 4 with the following paragraph:

When the ends of the bars 11 have been raised by means of the upward movement of the first magnetic means 13, second magnetic means 21 are activated, which comprise a second magnetic element 22 mounted at the end of a second linear actuator 23 mounted, in turn, on the supporting frame 18. Detection means 19 can be associated with said second magnetic means 21 to detect the absence of bars 11 on said first magnetic means 13 and to give consent for a new pick-up cycle by said first magnetic means 13. Detection means 19 is shown in Fig. 1 but omitted from other figures for clarity.